

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1           1. (currently amended) A method of making a fiber  
2 laminate, the method comprising the steps of:

3           (a) forming a nonwoven spunbond filament layer;

4           (b) prebonding said nonwoven spunbond filament layer to a  
5 tensile strength of at least 50% of the tensile strength thereof at  
6 maximum bonding as defined in DIN 53815 to form a prebonded  
7 nonwoven spunbond filament layer;

8           (c) applying at least one layer of hydrophilic fibers  
9 onto said prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer; and

10           (d) hydrodynamically bonding the layer of hydrophilic  
11 fibers to the spunbond filament layer to create a two-layer [[a]]  
12 laminate formed by said fibers together to forming an absorbent  
13 cloth.

1           2. (original) The method defined in claim 1 wherein the  
2 nonwoven spunbond filament layer is prebonded in step (b) in a  
3 calender.

1           3. (original) The method defined in claim 2 wherein the  
2 nonwoven spunbond filament layer is prebonded in step (b) in a  
3 calender having at least one heated embossing drum cylinder.

1           4. (original) The method defined in claim 3 wherein the  
2 prebonding is carried out in step (b) such that a maximum free

3 filament length between two bonding points of the nonwoven spunbond  
4 layer is less than 15 mm.

1 5. (original) The method defined in claim 4, further  
2 comprising the step of additionally deforming said prebonded  
3 nonwoven spunbond filament layer to increase the thickness thereof.

1 6. (original) The method defined in claim 5, further  
2 comprising the step of treating said prebonded nonwoven spunbond  
3 filament layer with at least one wetting agent prior to application  
4 of said fibers thereto.

1 7. (original) The method defined in claim 6 wherein  
2 said wetting agent is at least one tenside or surface active agent.

1 8. (original) The method defined in claim 7 wherein the  
2 hydrophilic fibers are applied by at least one carding machine or  
3 at least one air-layering device onto the prebonded nonwoven  
4 spunbond filament layer.

1 9. (original) The method defined in claim 8, further  
2 comprising the step of applying a second spunbond nonwoven material  
3 onto said laminate formed by said layers.

1           10. (original) The method defined in claim 9 wherein  
2 the hydrodynamic bonding of said layers into said laminate is  
3 effected by a water-jet treatment thereof.

1           11. (original) The method defined in claim 1 wherein  
2 the prebonding is carried out in step (b) such that a maximum free  
3 filament length between two bonding points of the nonwoven spunbond  
4 layer is less than 15 mm.

1           12. (original) The method defined in claim 1, further  
2 comprising the step of additionally deforming said prebonded  
3 nonwoven spunbond filament layer to increase the thickness thereof.

1           13. (original) The method defined in claim 1, further  
2 comprising the step of treating said prebonded nonwoven spunbond  
3 filament layer with at least one wetting agent prior to application  
4 of said fibers thereto.

1           14. (original) The method defined in claim 13 wherein  
2 said wetting agent is at least one tenside or surface active agent.

1           15. (original) The method defined in claim 1 wherein  
2 the hydrophilic fibers are applied by at least one carding machine  
3 or at least one air-layering device onto the prebonded nonwoven  
4 spunbond filament layer.

1           16. (original) The method defined in claim 1, further  
2 comprising the step of applying a second spunbond nonwoven material  
3 onto said laminate formed by said layers.

1           17. (original) The method defined in claim 1 wherein  
2 the hydrodynamic bonding of said layers into said laminate is  
3 effected by a water-jet treatment thereof.